

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hideo Haga et al.
Serial No.: 09/980,535
Filed: October 24, 2001
Title: CARD HOLDING STRUCTURE AND PORTABLE TERMINAL
APPARATUS HAVING THE SAME
Docket No.: 34108

DECLARATION OF TIFFANY L. BALLOU

I, Tiffany L. Ballou, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Lakewood, Ohio hereby declare the following.

My normal and consistent business practice while opening the incoming mail comprises the following procedures:

I picked up the mail every morning on my way into the office.

I separated the mail into three categories, docketing, personal, and accounting.

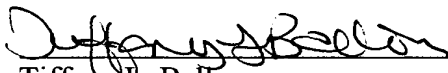
I opened the docketing mail, including foreign mail and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office mail, date stamp the mail, then forwarded it to the Docketing Department for processing.

I followed this same procedure on May 9, 2002, when I received a Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the United States Designation/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) dated January 25, 2002, wherein I opened the mail I received that morning, date stamped it and forwarded it to the Docketing Department for processing.

Based upon information and belief, the above-referenced Notification of Missing

Requirements was received at our office on May 9, 2002.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, Under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.


Tiffany L. Ballou

Date 10-26-02

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